

A U.S. Company And Tass to Issue Soviet Newsletter

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 1—Porter International, an American consulting company, announced today that it had formed a joint venture with Tass, the official Soviet press agency, to issue a newsletter twice a month on Soviet economic developments.

The company said the newsletter, tentatively to begin on April 15, would be called the Soviet Business and Economic Report. It will be aimed at trading interests in the Western Hemisphere, Australia and New Zealand.

Most of the information will be supplied by the economic news division of Tass and sent to Porter International, which has its main offices here, where it will be edited and tailored to the Western market. Lyell Ritchie, the editor of the newsletter, said a subscription would cost about \$150 a year.

Under the terms of the agreement, profits will be divided between Tass and Porter once Porter's initial overhead costs are met, Mr. Ritchie said.

Tass already has an English-language publication in Europe, as well as newsletters in Italian and Japanese. Porter said the impetus for the publication came from here, in light of growing American interest in Soviet trade.